

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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SUBJECT: CODEL WILSON - PRESS COVERAGE

1. SUMMARY: NEWS MEDIA REPORTAGE AND EDITORIALS
JAN 6-8 TREATED FULLY ARRIVAL AND ACTIVITIES OF CODEL
WILSON. WILSON'S STATEMENT TO REPORTERS FOLLOWING MEETING
WITH PM CARAMANLIS THAT LATTERS VIEW THAT US COULD AND
OUGHT TO HAVE DONE MORE FOR CYPRUS WAS SHARED BY
CODEL WAS REPORTED PROMINENTLY. FOCUS OF NEWS COVERAGE
JAN 7 STRESSED CODEL'S INTEREST IN REVIEWING EXTENT
OF ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE. PRESS UNDER SECRETARY
LAMBRIAS IS QUOTED AS REMARKING TO CODEL THAT ANTI-
AMERICANISM IS RESULT OF U.S. POSTURE TOWARD DICTATORSHIP
AND DURING RECENT CYPRUS CRISIS. EDITORIALS TOOK OCCASION
TO CRITICIZE U.S. POLICY TOWARD GREECE AND CYPRUS. END
SUMMARY.

2. ATHENS PRESS AND RADIO/TV REPORTED FACTUALLY AND FULLY
ARRIVAL OF CODEL WILSON AND LATER CONGRESSMAN BRADEMAS AND
THEIR APPOINTMENTS JAN 6-8. PRESS NOTED CODEL WILSON,
WHICH INCLUDED FOUR OTHER CONGRESSMEN, HFAC STAFF CONSULTANT
CLIFFORD HACKETT AND OTHER STAFFERS, MET WITH PM CARAMANLIS,
DEFMIN AVEROFF, UNDER SECRETARY FOR PRESS AND INFORMATION
LAMBRIAS, CU/NF CHAIRMAN GEORGE MAVROS AND OTHERS. AFTER
MEETING WITH PM CARAMANLIS, WILSON TOLD REPORTERS DISCUSSION
HAD BEEN INTERESTING AND WAS CONDUCTED IN ATMOSPHERE OF
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MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING. ASKED WHETHER CODEL INTEREST EXTENDED

TO CYPRUS ISSUE WILSON REPLIED "PM CARAMANLIS HAS MADE CLEAR TO US THAT U.S. COULD AND SHOULD HAVE DONE MORE ON CYPRUS ISSUE. WE AGREED WITH HIM." WILSON'S REMARKS WERE REPORTED PROMINENTLY IN ALL NEWSPAPERS AND OVER RADIO/TV JAN 8. PREVIOUS DAY PRESS CONCENTRATED ON PRESS SPOKESMAN LAMBRIAS' COMMENTS TO CODEL THAT PRINCIPAL REASON OF ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE IS POSITION OF USG DURING DICTATORSHIP IN GREECE AND RECENT CYPRUS CRISIS. LAMBRIAS ADDED THAT GREEK PUBLIC IS BITTER ABOUT POLICY OF U.S. GOVERNMENT BUT IS NOT HOSTILE TO AMERICAN CONGRESS, PRESS OR PEOPLE.

3. HEADLINES EMPHASIZED ANTI-AMERICANISM CONCERN OF CODEL AND CARAMANLIS STATEMENT REGARDING U.S. POSTURE TOWARD CYPRUS: "ANTI-AMERICANISM PREOCCUPIES GROUP OF CONGRESSMEN," "FIVE AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN CONDUCT RESEARCH ABOUT ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE," "AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN AGREE WITH CARAMANLIS--U.S. MUST DO MORE ABOUT CYPRUS," "THE U.S. OUGHT TO HAVE DONE MORE ABOUT CYPRUS ISSUE MR. CARAMANLIS STRESSED TO U.S. CODELS," AND "CARAMANLIS EXAMINED WITH U.S. CODELS PROBLEM OF CYPRUS AND GREEK-AMERICAN RELATIONS." EDITORIALS COMMENT ON JAN 8 TOOK OCCASION OF CONGRESSIONAL VISITS TO CRITICIZE U.S. POLICY IN GREECE AND DURING CYPRUS CRISIS. AKROPOLIS REMARKED THAT ANTI-AMERICAN SPIRIT IN GREECE STEMS FROM FACT THAT U.S. HAS MADE MISTAKES WHICH MUST BE CORRECTED IN WASHINGTON. TO VIMA IN OPINION COLUMN ENUMERATED U.S. FOREIGN POLICY ACTIONS WHICH HAVE INJURED GREEK INTERESTS--U.S. SUPPORT OF DICTATORIAL REGIME, U.S. EXPLOITATION MILITARILY, ECONOMICALLY, AND POLITICALLY OF MILITARY REGIME, U.S. POLICY ALLOWING TURKISH INTRANSIGENCY IN CYPRUS PROBLEM AND INVASION OF CYPRUS WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED THROUGH UTILIZATION OF 6TH FLEET. TO VIMA CONCLUDED THAT AMERICAN PUBLIC MUST UNDERSTAND REALITIES OF U.S. POLICY BUT UNFORTUNATELY TO QUOTE SPANISH PHILOSOPHER "AMERICA IS COUNTRY IN WHICH CHILDREN REFUSE TO BECOME GROWNUPS." KATHIMERINI WROTE THAT ANTI-AMERICANISM FORMERLY WAS PRESERVE OF LEFTISTS, NOW IT HAS CONQUERED LARGE PART OF GREEK PUBLIC. HOWEVER, MAJORITY OF GREEKS HAVE ALWAYS APPRECIATED POSITION OF U.S. CONGRESS AND PRESS WHICH HAVE DEFENDED GREEK INTERESTS. RIZOSPASTIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(COMMUNIST) UNDER TITLE "INVASION OF AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES" NOTED THAT CODELS SEEM AS VISIT OF LANDLORDS TO THEIR ESTATES SINCE U.S. HAS SO VERY MANY BASES IN GREECE. SAME NEWSPAPER SUGGESTED SECRETARY KISSINGER PROMPTED TURKISH FORMER PM ECEVIT TO ISSUE STATEMENT IN CYPRUS JAN 4 AND CONCLUDED THAT CYPRUS CRISIS GENERATED SALES FOR BENEFIT OF MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX WHICH DECIDES EVERYTHING.

STEARNS

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